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Summary record of the 36th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 12 December 2002, at 3 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. Sharma ..... (Nepal)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.

Organization of work

1. **The Chairman** said that he had been informed that before beginning to adopt the draft decisions and resolutions before them, the members of the Committee wished to conduct further work on outstanding issues. He accordingly proposed that the formal meeting should be adjourned, and that informal consultations should continue.

2. *It was so decided.*

3. **Mr. Nakkari** (Syrian Arab Republic) said that his delegation wished to make a particular observation on the agenda item concerning the pattern of conferences: 2002 was the first year in which that matter had not been given the requisite priority or attention, and too few meetings had been set aside to discuss it. He hoped that that would not constitute a precedent. The item should be discussed at a resumed session of the Committee. His delegation had endeavoured to be flexible in accommodating the wishes of others, but at the current time, it appeared that there was no desire to discuss the matter further. He wished to emphasize that the item had been on the agenda of the Committee because of a mandate accepted by all delegations. The correct way to deal with the issue was to assign the appropriate number of meetings to it, not to refuse to negotiate further.

4. **The Chairman** said he took note of the request made by the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic.

The meeting rose at 3.30 p.m.